

**Ellenvale Junior High**  
**School Advisory Council Meeting Minutes**  
**November 23, 2015**

**In Attendance: (13)** Jeff Carruthers, Julia Cottingham, Jeff Lewis, Donna Gallant, Belinda Oxner, Abby Oxner, Kiernan Creed, Cole Ogilvie, Sher Skeard, Ann Abi Doud, Rachel Cartier, Maggie Zinck, Anneka Janes

**4. Current and Upcoming Events**

- a. Last week - Teens Now Talk Expo – feedback from Rachel Cartier and Anneka Janes, Jeff Gabriel contacted the organizers about booths that were not staffed
- b. Last week – Report Cards
- c. Last week – Spirit Day – Western theme, great message created by Mme. Cunningham inviting students and staff to show our school spirit for Western Day.
- d. Today - Matilda Dartmouth Players, Grade 8's attended
- e. Today – staff consultation with Cpl. Don Dorey – looking for presentation with Teachers and Parents
- f. November 24 PD with Dr. Kim McLeod- Culturally Relevant Pedagogy.
- g. November 26 PD / Parent-Teacher / Staff Appreciation- PD with Nolan Pike around new transgender Policy
- h. Coastal Dance – Alice in Wonderland – December 1 (French) and 3 (English)
- i. December 3 – 5:30 – 8:00 p.m. – Parent-Teacher
- j. December 9 – MADD Canada Presentation- multimedia presentation for all students, shared that some of the material is upsetting
- k. December 10 – Fall Band concert
- l. December 11 – Spirit Day
- m. December 14 – Band at Parkland Estates – Friday December 4th
- n. December 17, 18? – Basketball Tournament – still tentative
- o. December 18 – Last day before Christmas break
- p. January 27 – Parents as Career Coaches

**Jeff C. had to leave the meeting early so Julia Cottingham took over the minute taking--  
Con't from Current and Upcoming Events at Ellenvale**

When sending out the announcements via Alert Solutions, include upcoming events/activities as appropriate or make a separate Alert Solutions message if we asking for input or volunteers or if we think the message may get lost in the daily Announcement message.

**5. EPG Update**

So many ideas. Very productive and working well. Fundraising is identified and confident events will be upcoming.

## **6. Video Camera Update**

Cameras are up and running inside the school. They are motion triggered (even to changes in daylight). Proving to be helpful already. Estimated that they will record for 2 weeks before overwriting; therefore, it is important staff notify admin of any reason to review video and save a particular time period to a separate file if necessary.

## **7. Community Report**

Distributed and posted on HRSB website. Will shortly be posted to Ellenvale Website. Mostly the report speaks to our Literacy and Math Goals. Hoping that our families are seeing these reports as they go out on Alert Solutions or up on the web sites. Discussion re Alert Solution messages going to spam folders. Send a voice mail message via Alert Solutions to give parents a heads up on how to make sure they are receiving the email messages (**Jeff Lewis**).

## **8. School Boundary Review – New Policy**

Belinda spoke very knowledgeably and thoroughly on the School Boundary policy and procedures being reviewed by the Board. She has drafted an experienced response to the 3 questions to which the Board asked SAC's to respond. We were all in favour of her sending in these responses on our SAC's behalf. We are very grateful for her efforts and knowledge regarding School Boundary Reviews.

Some of our concerns: Will Ellenvale be subject to a Boundary Review in the near future. Would our school configuration move from grades 7 to 9 to grades 6 to 8? Is it clear what the criteria are for a review? Have all concerned parties been consulted before the review is recommended? In the past, it has felt that the outcome of a boundary review was pre-determined. Inclusive consultation must be started earlier in the process to achieve consensus. The community should have their desires and needs heard. Belinda's rubric and response is attached to this document.

## **9. Photography Contract Update**

This will be addressed in January. The new contract for the photographer is for the 2016-17 year. Yearbook and photographs of students/classes are two separate contracts.

## **10. New Math Program Implementation**

Teachers have had lots of PD on this and the VP and P were also called in to review the new program which was useful and very much appreciated.

## **11. TIENET and Program Planning Implementation**

A sample of students was taken from a number of schools and a few new strategies have been implemented as a result. SPT is held and minutes are recorded. Five recommendations were made to Program Planning teams. The intent is to ensure students' programs are specifically

adapted to them. There are also IPP's for students who exceed program expectations. Enrichment planning referrals come from the teachers and/or teams. Mr. Lewis has been promoting the Marzano and Rutherford books with staff which helps teachers create the desire in students to learn more. It is always a challenge to find the right balance in a classroom for teaching to so many. Ideally, each student would have a program plan for learning. Still, it is being talked about and work is being done to engage students who are disengaged for a variety of reasons (culture, gender orientation, . . . ). Vertical PLC's (Professional Learning Community - - grade 7, 8 and 9 teachers who teach a common subject meet together) mean teachers are no longer isolated from their peers. They meet for 1 hour each week and must keep minutes which are reviewed by both the VP and P and reported on to the school supervisor also. Enhancements to student programming is ongoing. Teachers are encouraged to grow what is part of their skill set.

We agree that it is important for respect to be a two-way street. Teachers must be held to the same standard as the students. There seems to be more opposition these days in the classroom/school. Adults set the tone. This was discussed in the staff meeting today as well—talking with students without escalating the situation.

We received positive feedback from students/parents regarding WeDay – Both Mme Cunningham and Mme Boudreau attended with 30 or more students. WeDay curriculum was also brought to our attention at the Staff Meeting today.

**SAC Meeting Dates:**

- Dec.-none
- Jan.25<sup>th</sup>
- Feb.22<sup>nd</sup>
- March-none
- April 25<sup>th</sup>
- May 16<sup>th</sup>

Adjourned at 7:25pm.